At a Glance

USAID Nutrition and Hygiene Project

The project integrates nutrition-specific and WASH interventions in the health and community sectors and nutrition-sensitive interventions in the agricultural sector. The project addresses both the immediate causes of malnutrition such as inadequate dietary intake and prevention of infectious diseases and the chronic causes of malnutrition such as poor hygiene, inadequate sanitation and low consumption of quality, diverse foods. The project works with mothers and in communities to sustainably increase access to WASH and nutritious food. Importantly, the project follows up with previously triggered community-led total sanitation (CLTS) communities, and collaborates with local government agencies on reducing malnutrition.

Project GOAL

Improve the nutritional status of women and children, with a special emphasis on building resilience through the prevention and treatment of under-nutrition while targeting the 1,000-day period from a mother’s conception until the child turns 2.

SELECT ACTIVITIES

- Increase small-scale production, processing, preparation and consumption of diverse and quality foods.
- Use multiple media channels and engagement with community health workers to promote, demonstrate and support the adoption of key WASH and nutrition behaviors.
- Conduct CLTS+ triggering, joint monitoring and follow-up with previously triggered communities, all in collaboration with local government, traditional leaders and community influencers.
- Organize effective joint supervision of community health volunteers to increase efficiency and quality of messages and improve morale.

Women’s Empowerment

The project includes efforts to identify hierarchies and social networks that worsen power inequalities between sexes. This project will reveal and address norms that influence women’s access to knowledge, food resources, and the decisions they can make autonomously about feeding their children.

Country Information

CARE began its work in Mali in 1975 to help the government respond to an emergency. The work gradually shifted from emergency projects to programs helping local communities adopt initiatives for their own development. CARE in Mali emphasizes the promotion of democratic governance, including assisting community organizations to be more effective.